

**MINUTES
HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024**

The Houston City Council met in regular session at 6:30 P.M. on Monday, December 2nd, 2024 at Houston City Hall Council Chambers, 601 S. Grand Avenue with the following members present: Mayor Viki Narancich, Alderman Sam Kelley, Alderman Fred Stottlemire, Alderman Tim Ceplina, Alderwomen Sheila Walker, Alderman Don Romines, Alderwomen Angie Gettys, City Attorney Sean Smith, City Administrator Lloyd Wells, City Clerk Barbara Rodgers, Police Chief Brad Evans, Fire Chief Robbie Smith and Parks & Recreation Director Robbie Mortensen.

Mayor Narancich called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

City Clerk Rodgers called roll call.

Mayor Narancich established a quorum.

The motion was made by Alderman Stottlemire and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve the minutes for November 18th, 2024 regular meeting. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderwomen Gettys and seconded by Alderman Romines to approve the minutes for November 18th, 2024 closed session. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderman Ceplina and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve minutes for the Budget Workshop/Special Council meeting held on November 25th, 2024. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderman Ceplina and seconded by Alderwomen Gettys to approve payroll dated for December 2nd, 2024 for November 18th through December 1st, 2024. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderman Stottlemire and seconded by Alderman Romines to approve payment of invoices for November 27th and December 2nd, 2024 (\$148,614.18) as presented. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

Guest:

Rick Bond and Roxanna Guevara introduced their new business, The Beauty Bar to the council. Bond and Roxanna introduced their services and will be obtaining a city business license for January 1st, 2025. The council stated the City does not need anything from the business pertaining to alcohol since The Beauty Bar is not selling alcohol. The Beauty Bar has a consumption only liquor with the State of Missouri.

James Zumwalt, Managing Member with Mid-States Pipeline presented a proposal for the quadplex project. Midstate Pipeline has served the industry for 32 years, specializing in pipeline maintenance and civil projects.

Jay Garner, Project Representative with Byrne & Jones Sports Construction presented a proposal for the quadplex project. Byrne & Jones is a sports facility construction industry that constructs an all-in-one service for design, engineering and building.

Laura Koonce, Project Manager with Woolpert presented an update on the final project costs for the Houston Memorial Airport Runway Lighting Rehabilitation project.

The motion was made and by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderwomen Gettys to authorized Mayor Narancich to sign documents to complete the airport lighting project and begin the reimbursement process. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemeyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

Public Comments:

Morgan Patterson, Chamber President provided comments regarding the possible electric rate increase. Patterson stated that business owners and the elderly would suffer the most and ask the council not to raise rates.

Kevin Stilley, Chamber Board Member provided comments regarding the possible electric rate increase. Stilley stated he believes the electric component of the city budget is profitable and asked if the supplier of the City’s electric has raised rates. Stilley believes that in the future the rates will increase and the City will be forced to raise rates.

Joe Honeycutt, City Treasurer provided comments regarding the possible electric rate increase. Honeycutt believes the City should increase electric rates in small increments every year to avoid substantial rate increases. He stated there was no electric rate increase last year and that the City’s reserves are for disasters.

Three other individuals filled out cards to speak during public comments but either declined or had already left the meeting when their name was called.

Bill 114 to become Ordinance 2024-114 (Definitions) amending Chapter 11, Article II, Section 11-16 (Definitions).

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderman Ceplina to place Bill 114 amending Chapter 11, Article II, Section 11-16 (Definitions) on second and final reading by title only to become Ordinance 2024-114. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

Bill 115 to become Ordinance 2024-115 (Declaration of nuisance, maintenance thereof, penalties).

Motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderwomen Gettys to place Bill 115 amending Chapter 11, Article II, Section 11-17 (Declaration of nuisance, maintenance thereof, penalties) on second and final reading by title only to become Ordinance 2024-115. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

Mayor Narancich presented 2025 council meeting schedule. Alderman Romines and Aldermen Kelley expressed no interest in changing the council meeting schedule to once a month. No action was taken.

Transit System Agreement was postponed to the December 16th, 2024 council meeting. Clarification to the agreement needs to include date range and mileage distance.

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderman Romines to approve City Administrator Wells to be the authorized representative to sign documents for TREKK. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderman Ceplina to approve Mayor Narancich to sign SCCC renewal and work agreement. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

A certificate of deposit (CD) at Bank of Houston matured on November 29th, 2024 for \$108,035.27. Current rate and term options were provided to council that included The Bank of Houston, Progressive Ozark Bank, Security Bank, Simmons Bank and West Plains Bank and Trust.

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to move the CD from Bank of Houston to West Plains Bank and Trust for a 12 month term at 4.20%. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The GFL trash rates will increase effective January 1st, 2025. This is a 4% increase.

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderman Ceplina to increase 2025 electric rates to 3%. The increase will be used for maintenance, improvements and infrastructure needs within the electrical department. Motion failed with three yes votes and three no votes. Mayor Narancich broke the tie with a no vote.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre		X		
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker		X		
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys		X		

Building Permit Fee Schedule was postponed to the December 16th, 2024 council meeting. Alderwomen Walker asked Administrator Wells to research fee schedules from surrounding towns.

The motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Ceplina to approve additional income check of \$100 to full-time, part-time and fire department employees. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderman Ceplina and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to postpone the budget to the December 16th,2024 council meeting. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderwomen Gettys and seconded by Alderman Stottlemyre to include chamber membership letters in the mailing of fiber sign-up forms to city businesses. Postage not to exceed \$500.00. Motion carried with six yes votes.

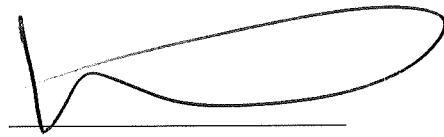
	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to adjourn the council meeting at 8:49 P.M. Motion carried with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina	X			
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys	X			

Barbara Rogers

Minutes Taken By:



Mayor

Attest:

Barbara Rogers

City Clerk